

REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1-5 and 7 are all the claims pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Support for Claim 1 can be found in the specification, such as in Figures 1-6.

Claim 7 has been added. Support for Claim 7 can be found in the specification, such as in Figures 1-6.

Therefore, no new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,968,069 to Dusbabek *et al.* (hereinafter “Dusbabeck”).

With regard to Claims 1, 2 and 6, Dusbabek is relied upon as disclosing a catheter having an elongate body (212), the body (212) assertedly comprising a tubular member (216) surrounded the elongate body wherein the walls of the tubular member are corrugated and include a plurality of ribs (fig. 30-33), a stent (218) and a support region (214) formed over the corrugated section.

With regard to Claims 1 and 6, Dusbabek also is relied upon as disclosing a catheter having an elongate body (372, fig. 43-45), the body being a tubular member and the tubular member having at least one corrugated section (354) in the distal region, a support region (358) formed over the corrugated section and a stent (360).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reasons. As discussed in the Response filed September 21, 2004, Dusbabek is deficient with respect to at least “a hollow

body defined by walls, with proximal and distal ends, wherein at least one section of the walls of the hollow body in the distal region is corrugated and at least one section of the walls of the hollow body in the proximal region is smooth.” Both the securement device 216 and the inner shaft 212 taught by Dusbabek does not correlate to the catheter recited in Claims 1 and 7.

Referring to Figures 28-37, Dusbabek discloses that “a securement device 216 is fixed at its distal and/or proximal ends to inner shaft 212.” *See*, col. 16, lines 65-66. It follows that Dusbabek discloses that the securement device 216 is *mounted on* the inner shaft 212. In this regard, Dusbabek fails to teach or suggest that one section of the inner shaft 212 is defined by the securement device 216. Applicants respectfully submit that Dusbabek discloses that the inner shaft 212 is distinct from the securement device 216.

It follows that the inner shaft 212 is distinguishable from the hollow body presently claimed. Figures 28-37 shows that the walls of the inner shaft 212 is smooth from the proximal end thereof to distal end thereof. Dusbabek fails to teach or suggest that the walls of the inner shaft 212 are corrugated at any section thereof.

Additionally, FIG. 30 of Dusbabek is a perspective view of the securement device 216. In FIG. 30, the securement device 216 is shown to have corrugated walls from the proximal end to the distal end thereof. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that Dusbabek fails to teach or suggest that the walls of the securement device 216 are smooth at any section thereof.

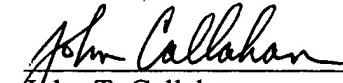
Further, the present claimed invention would not have been obvious from Dusbabek. As noted above, Dusbabek discloses that the securement device 216 is mounted on the innershaft 212. A securement device 216 mounted on an inner shaft 212 as taught by Dusbabek is

distinguishable from the hollow body recited in Claims 1 and 7. Such corrugations confer advantages that corrugations mounted over a usually rigid inner shaft 212 do not.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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